

A
DECLARATION
OF

An happy TREATIE for PEACE,
BETWEEN

The Kings Maiesty,
AND

The High Court of PARLIAMENT.



L O N D O N,

no T [Febr. 11.

Printed for T. Wright. 1643.]

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The History of the Parliament of Great Britain



LONDON,
Printed for T. Wright. 1843.

Feb. 11.

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A
D E C L A R A T I O N
O F

An happy Treaty for peace, betweene

T H E
K I N G S M A J E S T Y,

A N D

The high Court of PARLIAMENT.



T H E bleeding misery of our poor distressed brethren in *Ireland*, under the cruel rebellion of the Papists at this time, whereby that Kingdome is in danger to be lost, requires rather aid to rescue them from that thraldome: then to involve *England* into the like misery, and indeed who can be ignorant not only how just cause *Scotland* hath to suspect the Papists here as well as we, but with us labour to root them out also, and what their intents are against *England* we may easily judge, not only by their cruelties in *Ireland* and forraign Kingdomes,

but by wofull too late experience in many places about this Kingdome, who do mischief amongst us, not by their own persons only, but by traducing others to coagitate in their cruel and desperate designs against the Land, Religion, King, Parliament, and even humanity, against whose practises there is so many wholsome Lawes.

Neither have they only made us miserable, but an evill counsel that have laboured to breed and work in the Kings Majesty a dislike and disaffection toward the Parliament and their proceedings, under which mistake this Kingdom hath too long bleedingly groaned, by reason of a civill and unhappy warre: Insomuch that although both the honorable Houses of Parliament have by all means sought the peaceable returne of his Majesty, yet they have bin still prevented by such who have prevailed in their Counsell against them, which hath caused so long a hinderance of that happy accommodation which might otherwise have bin obteyned.

For this purpose they have often petitioned to his Majesty, and in most humble manner desired his peaceable return to his Parliament, but were still opposed by reason of the evill Counsell about him.

The Parliament having received now at last such an Answer as hath given them some hopes of accommodation; are no little glad therof, which they have entertained with such joyful acceptance as they can expresse, and have therefore cheerfully treated concerning the same, desiring no greater happinesse then the perfecting thereof, not doubting but that it will make way for the removing of all our grievances and supplying of all our wants, neither have they neglected the perfecting of their sitting for a convenient

ent and happy Treaty, who being all equall, willing and ready in the accomplishment thereof, have in a short space of time drawn up their resolutions, and returned them to his Majesty: God prosper the work, and give a blessing to it.

The Parliament being tender of the losing of the lives of any of his Majesties good subjects by war and bloodshed, do in their wise judgments hold it better to draw up the period of all differences, and perfect a reconciliation with his Majesty by a peaceable treaty, then by the sword, or lingring Declarations and Messages, that so (if it be possible) a sudden and happy accommodation may be accomplished, in which work they are most earnest and carefull.

Now seeing there is so much hopes of an accommodation, it concerns the whole Kingdome, and every man in his particular state, degree and calling, to be carefull not to hinder, but to help forward this great work, lest by negligence they become guilty of innocent blood.

1 We ought to remember in the first place to give God thanks for these hopes, and this happy opportunity, for it is not man alone that doth it, all the wisdom of man is but vaine, God directs and appoints what in his great wisdom he will have come to passe, and he looks for the praises of his works, therefore let us not forget to praise God for the hope which he hath now given us of this great work; let us be often thinking and talking of it, saying, *Blessed be the name of the Lord.*

2 We must take heed of sin, least thereby the work be hindred: God grant that the pride of this land, the profaning of the name of God by bloody and fearfull oaths, cozening,

cozening, lying, Sabbath-breaking, &c. do not hinder the accommodation; the destroying Angel ceased not until *Phineas* smote the adulterer and the adulteresse; Gods wrath was not appeased till *Achans* theft was punished; sin brought the troubles that often fell upon *Jerusalem*, and *Jonahs* sin troubled the whole ship, which found no rest till he returned. Thus doth it concern us all to leave our sins, and turn to God by repentance, els may we still saile in violent winds and troubled waters.

3 It concerns us also to take heed of trusting the Papists, they must be narrowly watched; for they are utter enemies to accommodation, they cannot indure unity between the King and Parliament, they love to increase civill warre in Protestant Kingdomes; for by continuance of war, 1. They gain advantage for the bringing in of forraigne power to subdue the Protestants. 2. They can better shew themselves to one another. 3. They gaine better opportunity of working their treasons and conspiracies at home. 4. They gather more to an head, &c. all which being considered, we have great reason to take heed of trusting them or permitting them in any way to give opportunity of doing hurt to Protestants, or Religion.

4 Let us by no means crosse or thwart the Parliaments designes, or be in any respect an hinderance to the same; we have chosen them to be the representative Body of the Kingdome, to sit there for us; and they have been found faithfull; they are there gathered together by the providence of God, let us take heed of crossing Gods way, least instead of procuring a blessing, we bring a curse upon us.

3 We

5 We must not be negligent to help them with money; yea with our lives and all that we have (according to the Protestation) else we are not helpers but troublers of the Common-wealth, and indeed who of conscience can deny to helpe them in so great a worke in which we are all so much interested.

6 We must not be negligent in Prayer to almighty God to perfect it to his glory, the Kings honour, the flourishing of the Gospel, and the good of the whole Land, have we not cause to pray: Surely there can no Kingdome in the world have more reason to implore Almighty God by humble supplication then we; whether we look upon the miseries we are in by warre, or the blessings we may enjoy by peace. 1. The miseries we are in by warre, in our own persons by continuall danger to be slain and murdered, in our friends, to have our wives and daughters barbarously deflowered, our childrens braines dashed in pieces against the stones, and famine the hand-maid of warre to devour both us and them, And in our estates to be plundred and pillaged, and robbed of all that we have: especially having Armies of Papists raised against us. 2. The blessings that we may enjoy by peace are many, reparation of decayed trading, freedome from continuall feares and dangers, comfort in our callings, each man according to his degree, safety of our estate, comfort of our Church, propagation of the Gospel, the honour of the King, and the comfortable enjoyment of such blessings as God hath bestowed upon us.

Now may we see how much a prudent Accommodation is better then by hasty peace on the Papists, and Malignants termes to betray our Religion and liberties, King, Parliament,

Parliament and Lawes, for by the one we are happy, and have to do with a royal King and Sovereigne him selfe, by the other Papists and evil Counsel might prove our ruine.

This is that way of peace which may make poor *England* more happy then ever: yea then all Nations (when our royal King shall sit in his Princely throane with an Olive branch of peace, to the joy of all his Protestant subjects, who desire rather to see him in his Parliament then at so great a distance from them, when the Parliament shal stand right in the eyes of his Majesty, when Religion is settled, reformation of all things amisse wrought, and every one quietly sitting under his owne Vine, by a peaceable and happy settlement under his gracious Majesty, which God of his good mercy and goodnesse grant.

F I N I S.

